

In 2011, the power of such documentation was confirmed when three women received the Nobel Peace Prize. One was Leymah Gbowee, whose story of pushing for peace in Liberia might have been forgotten if not for the documentary "Pray the Devil Back to Hell." Similarly, the Women PeaceMakers Program in San Diego records the stories that are overlooked or neglected in the media and in history books.

To date, the program has documented the stories of 35 Women PeaceMakers from 30 countries. This year it has selected four more women, from Colombia, Kenya, Nepal and the Solomon Islands, to reside for two months on the campus of the University of San Diego and have their stories recorded by professional writers and a documentary film team. The location of the university, overlooking San Diego's Mission Bay and the Pacific Ocean, is an idyllic one for rest and reflection for women who often face violence on a daily basis, and who must struggle for space and security to do their work for peace.

The process of reflection that the women undertake as they share their stories, contemplating their motivation to become leaders, and why the initiatives they developed were successful teaches them how to be more effective peacebuilders when they return to their countries.

It is not only the professional writers, however, who get to hear the women's stories and learn of their methods of building peace. Members of the local community, as well as students and professors at the University of San Diego and neighboring schools and colleges, have the opportunity to attend the Women PeaceMakers' lectures and other public events, and those events are often streamed live online for national and international audiences as well. Last year, the university received the Senator Paul Simon Spotlight Award from NAFSA: The Association of International Educators, in recognition of the Women PeaceMakers Program and its success in internationalizing the campus.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice and the University of San Diego on a momentous 10th year of the Women PeaceMakers Program.

IN RECOGNITION OF PLAINFIELD
MAYOR SHARON ROBINSON-BRIGGS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mayor Sharon Robinson-Briggs as she is honored by the New Jersey State Conference of the NAACP at its 2012 Annual NJ NAACP State Convention. As the NJ NAACP celebrates African-American mayors throughout New Jersey, Mayor Robinson-Briggs should also be recognized as the first female Mayor of the City of Plainfield.

Serving as mayor of the City of Plainfield since 2006, Mayor Robinson-Briggs has committed herself to the residents of Plainfield by creating a Welcome Desk at City Hall, a Community Garden for the city and a Feed the Children program to provide groceries to local families. She has established herself as an

advocate for the community of Plainfield and all of the residents of New Jersey, participating in several organizations, including the NJ State NAACP Executive Committee; the American Cancer Society; the American Diabetes Association; and the NJ Sharing Network, which strives to promote organ and tissue donation. She is also an exemplary leader, having served as past president of the Plainfield Board of Education and past president of the Plainfield Area NAACP.

Mayor Robinson-Briggs has been commended by several organizations for her efforts on behalf of the residents of Plainfield and New Jersey. The State NAACP, as well as the Plainfield Area NAACP and Regional NAACP, have honored her with Certificates of Achievement. The YMCA of New Jersey also decorated Mayor Robinson-Briggs with the Minority Achievement Award. Her dedication to the community is demonstrated in her many accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in honoring Mayor Sharon Robinson-Briggs as the NJ State NAACP gathers to celebrate its annual convention. It is my hope that my colleagues will join me in thanking her for her leadership and service to the City of Plainfield.

IN HONOR OF MS. MARGARET
"PEG" BARKER

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Margaret "Peg" Barker for her tireless service to Maple Shade Township, New Jersey. Ms. Barker was a pillar of her community who ceaselessly worked to end adult illiteracy and protect the natural resources of Maple Shade Township.

Ms. Barker was a tireless advocate for literacy. As the founder of the Maple Shade Friends of Literacy organization, she tutored international residents so they could learn to read and write in the English language. Ms. Barker volunteered a majority of her time teaching English because she viewed books as a window to knowledge and satisfying curiosity. She wanted other residents to have the ability to enjoy reading and writing as much as she did.

However, Maple Shade Friends of Literacy was only the beginning of Ms. Barker's service to her community. She was a member of several town planning committees and various environmental committees that were dedicated to improving the lives of residents in Maple Shade. As a member of the Pennsauken Water Shed Committee, Ms. Barker volunteered her efforts protecting the environment by making sure that the water shed was safe for fellow residents. Furthermore, on her own time, Ms. Barker volunteered by mapping and marking every storm drain in the town of Maple Shade in order to protect turtles. Ms. Barker was dedicated to protecting the environment, but also extended her services to help the residents of Maple Shade in any way she could.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Barker's endless commitment to Maple Shade Township should not go unrecognized. I join the township and all of South Jersey in paying tribute to this exceptional woman.

SUPPORT OF THE BETTER
BUSINESS BUREAU

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the nation's Better Business Bureaus ("BBB"; originally known as Advertising Vigilance Committees).

The BBBs came into being at the annual meeting of the Associated Advertising Clubs of America in May, 1912, following an editorial in Printer's Ink magazine challenging false and misleading advertising. The first such Vigilance Committee was organized later that year by a group of industry leaders in the fight for truth in advertising and selling.

BBBs are private, non-profit organizations collectively constituting the United States' oldest and largest grassroots business self-regulatory organizations and pre-date the creation of the U.S. government's Federal Trade Commission by two years. Today, they consist of 116 independent BBB offices serving every market area in the United States, an additional 10 international offices serving Canada, and a national coordinating office located in Arlington, Virginia.

Over the past 100 years, BBB's have sought to foster an ethical marketplace where buyers and sellers can trust each other—advancing marketplace trust by creating communities of trustworthy businesses, setting standards, encouraging and supporting best practices, celebrating marketplace role models, and denouncing substandard marketplace behavior.

Throughout the 1920s—at a time when pernicious investment frauds and schemes threatened to undermine public trust in securities markets—BBBs across the country served the nation as a de facto securities regulator until the creation of the Securities and Exchange Commission in 1934. During the Great Depression of the 1930s, the nation's BBBs were nearly alone in their fight to promote "Truth in Advertising" and protect the public from the myriad frauds and schemes that preyed on the nation's beleaguered consumers. During the 1940s, BBBs conducted a relentless effort to educate and protect families on the home front from a number of war-related schemes and provided major technical assistance to the U.S. Government's efforts to coordinate war relief. As U.S. and Canadian soldiers returned from the war, and throughout the dramatic economic expansion of the 1950s, BBBs helped educate veterans and their families on a wide variety of marketplace trust issues—significantly expanding "truth in advertising" review, consumer complaint handling and the availability of consumer information—all at no cost to North American taxpayers.

The BBB system responded to the challenges of the consumer revolution of the late-1960s by merging activities of its National BBB and its Association of BBBs—under the leadership of businessmen Henry Ford II and Elisha ("Bud") Gray II—into a single, international organization—the Council of Better Business Bureaus. In the period following the creation of that new coordinating body, the BBB system:

Launched its National Advertising Division and National Advertising Review Board (in a